

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



May 09, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: NO 10497-Revision.doc).

Title: Short-term interval combined chemoembolization and radiofrequency ablation for hepatocellular carcinoma

Author: Won Hyeok Choe, Young Jun Kim, Hee Sun Park, Sang Woo Park, Jeong Han Kim, and So Young Kwon

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10497

Thank you for your comments and kind suggestions. Our paper has been corrected as you recommended. The revised manuscript has been revised in several respects, and we believe the revised manuscript is improved. The red colored text indicates revision or insertion. The corrections and revisions are as follows;

1 Format has been updated.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Suggestions of "Reviewer 69262" : Dear authors, receive congratulations for your excellent work. This is well structured and excellent tracking. Tables and figures are fine.

Answer: Thank you for your careful review and a favorable comment.

(2) Suggestions of "Reviewer 2440197" : It was not a controlled clinical trial. In other words, there was no control group in this study. So, it is not prudent to conclude that combined TACE and RFA in short intervals is safe for HCC patients.

Answer: We agree with this comment. In the original manuscript, we already addressed this issue in the limitation paragraph of the discussion section as follow "First, it did not included a control population such as a RFA alone treatment group or combined treatment with a longer time interval because of its retrospective nature. These control groups would have been necessary to clearly confirm the safety of short-term interval combined treatment."

(3) Suggestions of "Reviewer 2462252" : Interesting per with promising results.

Answer: Thank you for your positive comment.

(4) We mis-described the title of Table 2 in the original manuscript. So, this has been rephrased in the revised manuscript. (Sequential changes of laboratory parameters from the baseline levels to the levels at 1, 3, 6, 12 months after combination therapy in each group. → Sequential changes of laboratory parameters from the baseline levels to the levels at 1, 3, 6, 12 months after combination therapy.)

(5) We have corrected a minor numerical error. In the "changes in liver functional parameters" of the results, 51.52 ± 46.49 has been corrected to 51.52 ± 46.19 .

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

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